

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

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UNCLAS DUBLIN 1079

USIA FOR IEU; FOR CU - RICHARD STRAUS FROM KRENE

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SCUL
SUBJ: UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS PROJECT

1. I HAVE RECEIVED YOUR LETTER OF APRIL 22 TO PROFESSOR CLARK OF UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS ADVISING HIM THAT IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE TO PROVIDE GRANT-IN-AID ASSISTANCE FOR AN ADDITIONAL PERIOD.

2. ALSO, I RECEIVED A LETTER FROM HEAD OF MODERN HISTORY DEPARTMENT AT UCD, T D WILLIAMS, INFORMING THIS MISSION OF HOW HIGHLY PLEASED HE HAS BEEN WITH THE WORK OF INCUMBENT PROFESSOR KATZMAN AND HIS PREDECESSORS AND HOPING THAT THIS EXCELLENT WORK CAN BE "EXTENDED FOR ANOTHER YEAR AND INDEED RENEWED FOR ANOTHER THREE YEARS BEYOND THAT."

3. IN THE PAST NINE MONTHS I HAVE HAD NUMEROUS DISCUSSIONS WITH PROFESSORS WILLIAMS, NOWLAN, DOYLE, MCCOY, KATZMAN, LEE, CANNY AND OTHERS IN REGARD TO THE PROBLEMS WE FACE IN CONTINUING TO FINANCE THIS PROJECT. I HAVE ALSO DISCUSSED IT WITH PRESIDENT MURPHY OF UCD. THESE ARE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TIMES FOR IRELAND AND PARTICULARLY THE UNIVERSITIES. THE HOPES OF THREE YEARS AGO HAVE NOT MATERIALIZED. TODAY UCD IS NO BETTER OFF
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FINANCIALLY THAN IT WAS THEN AND THE OUTLOOK FOR IMPROVEMENT IS NOT OPTIMISTIC. IN FACT, AT THIS POINT IT IS NOT CERTAIN THAT THE MARY BALL WASHINGTON CHAIR OF AMERICAN HISTORY CAN BE FILLED ON A YEAR TO YEAR BASIS. UCD HAS MADE A COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE THE SHORTFALL IN FUNDS FOR 77-78 BUT 78-79 AND BEYOND IS NOT CLEAR. THE PRESENT THINKING IS THAT FUNDS ARE ADEQUATE FOR ONLY PART TIME

FUNDING ON AN ANNUAL BASIS OR FULL TIME EVERY OTHER YEAR.

4. IN MANY WAYS THE KANSAS TYPE OF PROJECT IS MORE IMPORTANT TO THE AMERICAN STUDIES PROGRAM THAN THE CHAIR BECAUSE OF ITS OUTREACH POTENTIAL. THAT POTENTIAL HAS NOT BEEN REACHED AS YET AND THE TERMINATION OF THE KANSAS PROJECT WOULD JEOPARDIZE WHAT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED AND SERIOUSLY THWART EXPANSION PLANS.

5. SINCE MY TIME HERE I HAVE FELT THAT THE ANNUAL CHANGE OF PROFESSORS ON THIS PROJECT WAS INEFFICIENT. MUCH OF THE YEAR IS DEVOTED TO SETTling IN. PROFESSOR KATZMAN AND HIS PREDECESSOR HAVE BOTH AGREED WITH ME ON THIS POINT. IN THIS REGARD PROFESSOR KATZMAN IS WILLING TO STAY ON FOR ANOTHER YEAR AND HAS OBTAINED PERMISSION FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS TO DO SO IF THE FUNDING MATTER CAN BE CLEARED UP. WITH THE ABOVE AS BACKGROUND, THIS MISSION (THE CHARGE' GIVES HIS FULL APPROVAL) RECOMMENDS THAT THE KANSAS PROJECT BE APPROVED FOR ANOTHER YEAR WITH PROFESSOR KATZMAN REMAINING ON.

6. WE HOPE THAT THE FUNDS FOR THIS EXTENSION CAN BE FOUND IN REPROGRAMMING. AS A LAST RESORT, WE WOULD BE WILLING TO USE THE POST'S ALLOTMENT FOR PARTIAL OR FULL FUNDING AS OUR CPP SUGGESTS.

7. WE ARE MINDFUL OF AND GRATEFUL FOR THE COMPLETE COOPERATION THIS MISSION HAS HAD FROM YOU AND YOUR
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STAFF AND REMAIN CONFIDENT THAT EVERYTHING POSSIBLE WILL BE DONE TO KEEP KATZMAN IN IRELAND FOR 77-78. AN EARLY RESPONSE WILL BE APPRECIATED AS KATZMAN HAS OTHER COMMITMENTS PENDING. RENDAHL

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